

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 /121 W

-----171551Z 082063 /42

R 171415Z MAR 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6007

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NY

USMISSION NATO

ERDA HQ WASHDC

ERDA GERMENTOWN

SEC DEF

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJECT: CCD: THIRD INFORMAL MEETING WITH EXPERTS ON NEW MASS

DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW), MARCH 16,1977

REF: A. GENEVA 1957 B. GENEVA 1980

1. SUMMARY: AT THIRD INFORMAL MEETING, HUNGARIAN REP  
WELCOMED EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND SAID PRESENT STAGE OF  
DISCUSSION SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON AREAS OF TECHNOLOGY  
WHERE EMERGENCE OF NEW MDW COULD BE EXPECTED. HUNGARIAN

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EXPERT CLAIMED SPACE-SHUTTLE HAD POTENTIAL FOR MDW, AND  
BAN ON MILITARY USE WOULD PROVENT ARMS RACE IN THIS  
RESPECT. US EXPERT APPLIED 1948 UN DEFINITION OF MDW  
AND CONCLUDED EXAMPLES CITED BY SOVIETS WERE NOT MDW, OR  
WERE OTHERWISE BEING DEALTH WITH. UK EXPERT REITERATED  
VIEW THAT DEFINITION OF MDW WAS IMPORTANT, BUT SAID 1948  
UN DEFINITION WAS POSSIBLE BEST THAT COULD BE ARRIVED AT

AND PROPOSED ITS USE FOR DISCUSSION. POLISH EXPERT RESPONDED TO CANADIAN AND NETHERLANDS EXPERTS WHO HAD SEAI EXAMPLES OF POTENTIAL MDW CITED BY POLE WERE NOT REALISTIC. INDIAN REP CRITICIZED UK EXPERT'S VIEW THAT PROBLEM OF DEFINITION EXISTED WITH RESPECT TO CW, AND SIAD REAL PROBLEM LAY WITH VERIFICATION AND DUAL PRUPOSE OF COMPOUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH BINARY WEAPONS. HE THEN ASKED WHAT US POSITION WAS ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AS MDW. END SUMMARY

2. HUNGARIAN REP (DOMOKOS) WELCOMED EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND SAID IT WAS USEFUL CONTINUATION OF PAST DISCUSSIONS WHICH COULD LEAD TO SOLUTION OF PROBLEM AND A DRAFT TREATY. HE SAID THAT TIME INTERVAL FOR CONVERSION OF RESULTS OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TO MILITARY APPLICATION HAD BEEN DECREASING. HE CITED GENETIC RESEARCH AS EXAMPLE WHERE ANTICIPATED PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS WERE NOW ONLY 3 TO 5 YEARS AWAY. APPROACH TO SOLUTION OF PROBLEM OF NEW MDW SHOULD BE PARALLEL TO WAY ENMOD DEVELOPED: REVIEW SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TO INDICATE POTENTIAL FOR NEW WEAPONS, THEN DEVELOP SCOPE OF PROHIBITION SATISFACTORY FOR LEGAL AND TECHNICAL PURPOSES. AT PRESENT STAGE OF DISCUSSION, CCD SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON AREAS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WHERE EMERGENCE OF NEW WEAPONS COULD BE EXPECTED. AN AGREED LIST OF EXAMPLES OF POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT WOULD FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT OF SCOPE OF PROHIBITION.

3. HUNGARIAN EXPERT (SZENTESI) CONCENTRATED HIS REMARKS ON THE MILITARY POTENTIAL OF SPACE-SHUTTLE AS MDW SYSTEM. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HE SAIAD THAT SPACE-SHUTTLE WOULD BE HIGHLY MANEUVERABLE AT ALTITUDES OF 40 TO 160 KM, AND COULD POSE IMMENSE DANGER FOR WHICH NO CURRENT DEFENSE EXISTS. HE NOTED ABM TREATY LIMITS DEFENSES. HE STATED THAT IN OPINION OF HIS GOVERNMENT "THIS ALTITUDE IS NOT COVERED BY OUTER SPACE TREATY, AND A SPACE SHUTTLE WHICH DOES NOT GO INTO ORBIT OR REACH AN ALTITUDE OF 160 KM WOULD NOT BE PROHIBITED FROM BEING USED AS A DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR MDW". HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING A BAN ON USES OF SPACE SHUTTLE MDW SYSTEM WOULD IN NO WAY HINDER PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT OF SPACE SHUTTLE.

4. US EXPERT (BUCHHEIM) FIRST NOTED US ENCOURAGED FULL PUBLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESULTS AND OBSERVED MANY EXAMPLES OF SYSTEMS DRAWN FROM US SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE (SEE SEPTOL FOR FULL TEXT). HE SAID THAT OPEN PUBLICATION ENABLED A TIMELY APPRECIATION OF POTENTIAL PROBLEMS. HE ADVOCATED USE OF 1948 UN DEFINITION OF MDW AND THE LISTED TYPES OF WEAPONS COVERED. USING DEFINITION HE DISCUSSED FIVE EXAMPLES OF MDW CITED BY SOVIET EXPERT SOURIKON (REFTLE A). US EXPERT

SAID US DOES NOT CONSIDER WEAPONS BASED ON ACOUSTIC WAVE,  
ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES, AND FUEL/AIR MIXTURE TO BE MDW.

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R 171415Z MAR 77  
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
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THE USE OF TRANS-PLUTONIUM ELEMENTS IN A NUCLEAR WEAPON  
WOULD COME UNDER THE PRESENT AND ANY FUTURE AGREEMENT APPLYING  
TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE USE OF SPACE-SHUTTLE TO DELIVER  
MDW WOULD BE FORBIDDEN IF OPERATED IN SAPCE; AND USE IN  
NON-SPACE MODE WOULD COME UNDER AEGIS OF OTHER NEGOTIATIONS.

5. UK EXPERT (GARNETT) RESPONDED TO CZECH EXPERT AND  
PAKISTANI REPRESENTATIVE ON ROLE AND NEED OF DEFINITION OF MDW.  
LACK OF DEFINITION IN BW AND NPT WAS NOT NEEDED BECAUSE  
TERMS WERE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD. I HOWEVER, IN CASE WHERE  
AMBIGUITY EXISTS A LACK OF DEFINITION COULD CAUSE DIFFICULTY.  
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HE SAID AMBIGUITY EXISTS WITH RESPECT TO CW AND THIS HAS CAUSED DIFFICULTY WITH DEVELOPMENT OF CW TREATY. HE OBSERVED THAT INTERNATIONAL LAW MUST BE PRECISE TO BE USEFUL SO THAT STATES KNOW WHAT OBLIGATIONS THEY ARE UNDERTAKING. WITH RESPECT TO SOVIET PROPOSAL, HE INDICATED NO ENTHUSIASM, BUT SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE SENSIBLE TO BE AS CLEAR AS POSSIBLE ABOUT WHAT ONE IS TRYING TO PROHIBIT. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING IT WAS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT TO IMPROVE ON 1948 UN DEFINITION AND PERHAPS IT SHOULD BE AFFIRMED AS BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

6. POLISH EXPERT (MALECKI) RESPONDED TO CANADIAN AND NETHERLANDS EXPERTS (REF B) WHO HAD SAID EXAMPLE OF ACOUSTIC AND ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVE PHENOMENON WAS MDW CITED BY POLISH EXPERT COULD NOT BE PRACTICALLY REALIZED. HE SAID PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS WERE NOT RELEVANT AT THIS TIME. HE CLAIMED THAT CONCEPT OF RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AS MDW SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO COVER WEAPONS BASED ON ACOUSTIC AND ELECTRO-MAGNETIC PHENOMENA. HE CLAIMED THAT FUTURE TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENTS MIGHT MAKE MDW BASED ON SUCH PRINCIPLES PRACTICAL.

7. INDIAN REP (JAIN) REFUTED REMARK OF UK EXPERT THAT THERE WAS PROBLEM OF DEFINITION WITH RESPECT TO CW. INDIAN REP SAID PROBLEM LAY WITH CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW BINARY CHEMICAL WEAPONS. HE NOTED CW VERIFICATION DIFFICULTIES AND DUAL PURPOSE OF COMPOUND WHICH HAVE WIDESPREAD INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS. TURNING TO THE REMARKS OF US EXPERT, HE SAID THERE EXISTED PROBLEM IF CONVENTIONAL ARMS BECOME MDW EITHER BY SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH OR BY MASSIVE "MISUSE". HE ENDED DISCUSSION BY ASKING WHAT US POSITION WAS ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AS MDW.

8. COMMENT; REFERENCES BY HUNGARIAN EXPERT TO OUTER SPACE TREATY AND ABM TREATY WITH RESPECT TO SPACE SHUTTLE IS MOST RECENT OF GROWING NUMBER OF INSTANCES IN THESE MEETINGS WHEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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USSR OF EASTERN EUROPEAN SPEAKERS HAVE TRIED TO ADVOCATE SOVIET MDW PROPOSAL BY SUGGESTING, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, THAT VARIOUS EXISTING AGREEMENTS ARE DEFECTIVE IN COVERAGE. HUNGARIAN COMMENT CONCERNING OUTER SPACE TREATY NOT APPLYING TO HIGH-ALTITUDE AERODYNAMIC FLIGHT IS SO SILLY AS TO SUGGEST THAT IT BE IGNORED. HOWEVER, THE HUNGARIAN COMMENTS ABOUT ABM TREATY LIMITING DEFENSE AGAINST AERODYNAMIC VEHICLES IN ALTITUDE RANGE 40 TO 160 KILOMETERS WARRANTS SOME PREPARATORY THOUGHT AGAINST THE CONTINGENCY OF THIS LINE

BEING TAKEN UP BY THE USSR. END COMMENT

9. NEXT INFORMAL MEETING ON MDW TO FOLLOW PLENARY,  
THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 17.SORENSEN

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## Message Attributes

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